

Message Text

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UNCLAS STATE 311710 TOSEC 340057

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:SOPN, OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL - JACK ANDERSON ON HAK PAPERS.
THERE FOLLOWS THE FULL TEXT OF ARTICLE BY JACK ANDERSON AND
LES WHITTEN ENTITLED "KISSINGER TO WITHHOLD TRANSCRIPTS,"
CARRIED DECEMBER 28 IN THE WASH. POST. BEGIN TEXT:

1. NOT ALL OF HENRY KISSINGER'S PAPERS WILL BE DONATED TO
THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS. HE WILL WITHHOLD FROM HISTORY THE
TRANSCRIPTS OF HIS TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS.
2. THEY ARE NOW LOCKED IN A CIA-STYLE SAFE ON VICE
PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER'S ESTATE.
3. A SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT KISSINGER OBTAINED AN OPINION
FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT LEGAL OFFICE LAST JANUARY THAT

THE "SECRETARIAL NOTES" OF HIS TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS ARE
PERSONAL. THE SPOKESMAN DIDN'T MENTION THAT THE NOTES, FOR
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THE MOST PART, CONSISTED OF VERBATIM TRANSCRIPTS.

4. DURING THE NIXON YEARS, KISSINGER'S WHITE HOUSE OFFICE
CONTAINED TWO TIERS OF TAPE RECORDERS, ACCORDING TO
SOURCES FAMILIAR WITH THE LAYOUT. IN EACH TIER WERE THREE
RECORDERS ARMED WITH HALF-HOUR CYLINDERS. THUS KISSINGER

COULD TAPE THREE HOURS OF TELEPHONE TALK WITHOUT CHANGING
CYLINDERS.

5. ALL TELEPHONE CALLS, INCLUDING HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH PRESIDENTS AND GIRLFRIENDS ALIKE, WERE RECORDED. TWO OF THE FOUR SECRETARIES IN THE ANTEROOM ADJOINING HIS OFFICE SPENT MOST OF THEIR TIME TRANSCRIBING THE CONVERSATIONS.

6. KISSINGER TOLD US THAT ONLY OFFICIAL CALLS WERE TRANSCRIBED. HE KEPT THE TRANSCRIPTS, HE EXPLAINED, SO HE WOULD KNOW EXACTLY WHAT WAS SAID. THIS IS IMPORTANT IN DIPLOMACY, HE SAID, IN ORDER TO PREVENT INACCURACIES AND MISUNDERSTANDINGS. ALL THE TAPES WERE DESTROYED, HE ADDED.

7. WHEN KISSINGER MOVED TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT, THE USE OF TAPES HAD BECOME SENSITIVE. SO HE RELIED ON HIS SECRETARIES, LISTENING ON AN EXTENSION, TO TAKE DOWN THE CONVERSATIONS IN SHORTHAND.

8. KISSINGER TOLD US HE INTENDED TO USE THE TRANSCRIPTS MERELY TO REVIVE HIS RECOLLECTIONS WHEN HE WRITES HIS MEMOIRS. HE WILL NOT QUOTE DIRECTLY FROM THE TRANSCRIPTS, HE SAID. END OF TEXT.

ROBINSON

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